



Staff Liaison

Bridget Cooney | (510) 559-7008
bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, 3 p.m.

City of El Cerrito Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530

3 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong; Vice-Chair Katherine Cesa; Members Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Lisa Martinengo, Pamela Wagner, Mark Watson, Bruce Yow
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** (5 min.)
Remarks are typically limited to three minutes per person and may be on anything within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. Remarks on non-agenda items will be heard first. Remarks on agenda items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** (5 min.)
Staff and/or Council Liaison Quinto may report on policies, priorities, and action taken by the City Council, and/or on matters of general interest to the Committee on Aging.
- 4. COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENT AND RE-APPOINTMENT** (5 min.)
Chair Dr. Kwong announces the appointment of Lisa Martinengo and Mark Watson and the re-appointment of Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Pamela Wagner, and Bruce Yow as members of the Committee on Aging by City Council at the March 4, 2025, Council Meeting.
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (5 min.)
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the COA meeting held on February 19, 2025.
- 6. COMMITTEE ON AGING LIAISON REPORTS** (10 min.)
Liaisons for the Advisory Council on Aging, West County Senior Coalition, Christ Lutheran and St. John's one-day per week Senior Centers, and Senior Living Facilities in El Cerrito,

report on matters of interest to the Committee on Aging. Reports are limited to three minutes per group.

7. WORK PLAN FY 2024-2025 (15 min.)

- a) Discussion and possible motion to approve the April-May 2025 edition of the COA Senior Snippets Newsletter for publication and distribution.
- b) Discussion and possible motion to approve the proposed Age-Friendly Park Assessment Form for implementation by COA members to evaluate and report back on City Parks with the intention of sharing findings and recommendations for safety and accessibility improvements to the Park and Recreation Commission and City Council.
- c) Discussion and possible motion to approve COA Work Plan Accomplishments for the period of July 2024 to date.

8. FY 25-26 & FY 26-27 BIENNIAL WORK PLAN (15 min.)

Discuss and brainstorm ideas for goals and activities for the COA Biennial Work Plan for FY 2025-26 & FY 2026-27.

9. COMMITTEE ON AGING REORGANIZATION (20 min.)

Per City ordinance, select Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee on Aging for 2025 – 2026.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 min.)

Hear committee member announcements on matters of general interest to the COA, and suggestions for future COA agenda items.

Potentially engage in discussion and make decisions regarding logistics of COA consideration of future agenda items including:

- FY 25-26 & FY 26-27 Biennial Work Plan (May 21, 2025)
- FY 24-25 Accomplishments (May 21, 2025)
- COA Newsletter, June-August edition recommendation for publication (May 21, 2025)

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 min.)

The Chair announces future agenda items and members potentially engage in discussion and make motions regarding considerations of future agenda items including:

- FY 2025-26 & FY 2026-27 Biennial Work Plan (May 2025)
- FY 2024-25 Accomplishments (May 2025)
- COA Newsletter, June-August edition recommendation for publication (May 2025)
- Age-Friendly Park Assessment Reports and possible recommendation to City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission. (TBD)
- COA Annual Meeting Calendar 2026 (October 2025)

12. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Staff Liaison, (510) 559-7008. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave during normal business hours.



AGENDA MATERIALS

REGULAR COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, at 3 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 7 – WORK PLAN 2024-25

1. Draft April-May 2025 COA Senior Snippets Newsletter for review and possible motion to approve for publication and distribution.
2. Draft Age-Friendly Park Assessment Form for review and possible motion to adopt for use by COA members to evaluate city park accessibility and safety for seniors.
3. Draft COA Work Plan Accomplishments for FY 2024-25 for review and possible motion to adopt and share with City Council.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – COA WORK PLAN 2024-25

4. FY2024-25 COA Work Plan for reference and brainstorming proposed goals and activities for the FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27 Biennial Work Plan.



DRAFT MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Staff Liaison
Bridget Cooney | (510) 559-7008
bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

3:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Dr. Kwong called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong; Vice-Chair Katherine Cesa; Members Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow **Absent:** None

- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jane Brewer introduced herself as an El Cerrito resident interested in learning more about the Committee on Aging.

Mark Watson introduced himself and why he hopes to be appointed a member of the Committee on Aging.

Lisa Martinengo introduced herself and why she hopes to be appointed a member of the Committee on Aging.

Sonia Bustamonte introduced herself as the Chief of Staff to County Supervisor John Gioia.

- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Staff and/or Council Liaison Quinto may report on policies, priorities, and action taken by the City Council, and/or matters of general interest to the Committee on Aging.

Council Liaison Quinto introduced himself to the Committee and provided an update on the February 18, 2025, City Council meeting including that interviews and appointments were made for Boards and Commissions.

Council Liaison Quinto reported that the Caltrans project on San Pablo Ave is underway.

Staff Liaison Cooney provided an update on upcoming Recreation Department programs and events of interest to the committee.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, between the hours of 11:30am – 1:30pm there were over 110 individual seniors participating in programs at the Community Center.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Review, discuss, and consider a motion to adopt the minutes of the COA meeting held on January 15, 2025.

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe/ Vice Chair Cesa

Action: Adopted the minutes from January 15, 2025, Committee on Aging meeting as presented in the agenda materials.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

5. COMMITTEE ON AGING LIAISON REPORTS

Liaisons for the Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA), West County Senior Coalition, Christ Lutheran and St. John's Senior Day Center's, and Senior Living Facilities in El Cerrito, report on matters of interest to the Committee on Aging.

Members Kehoe and Lipson reported attendance at the February 19, 2025, ACOA meeting.

Member Kehoe reported delays to Measure X grant awards funds disbursement.

Member Kehoe reported on a presentation given on the topic of AI and seniors/adults with disabilities.

Member Lipson shared an updated from the Senior Legislature on SB239, Brown Act Revisions.

Member Lipson reported on AI studio and ways it is helping seniors.

Member Kehoe and Vice Chair Cesa reported that the next West County Senior Coalition meeting will take place on the fourth Wednesday of February.

Member Kehoe shared information on grant funding received by West Contra Costa Adult Education for computers and training for seniors at Christ Lutheran, St. John's, and Sakura Kai Senior Day Centers.

Member Kehoe shared information about upcoming presentations at Christ Lutheran Senior Day Center.

Member Akacic shared information about programs and classes happening at St. John's Senior Day Center.

6. COMMITTEE ON AGING APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Conduct informal interviews and consider possible action regarding recommendations for the appointment or re-appointment of members to the Committee on Aging (COA).

Informal interviews were conducted for advisory body appointments. Following discussions, motions were made and passed to recommend to the City Council

the appointment of Lisa Martinengo and Mark Watson to the Committee on Aging. Additionally, motions were made and passed to recommend the re-appointment of the following members to continue serving on the committee: Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Pamela Wagner, and Bruce Yow.

Moved/Second: Member Cain / Vice Chair Cesa

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Lisa Martinengo for appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe / Vice Chair Cesa

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Mark Watson for appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Member Lipson / Member Wagner

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Buddy Akacic for re-appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe / Vice Chair Cesa

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Linda Cain for re-appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Member Wagner / Vice Chair Cesa

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Carol Kehoe for re-appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Vice Chair Cesa/Member Kehoe

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Pamela Wagner for re-appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow

Nos: None

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe / Member Akacic

Action: Passed a motion to recommend Bruce Yow for re-appointment to the COA.

Ayes: Chair Dr. Kwong, Vice Chair Cesa, Members: Akacic, Cain, Kehoe, Lipson, Wagner, Yow
Nos: None

- 7. CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUPERVISOR JOHN GIOIA PRESENTATION**
Informational presentation and discussion on matters related to topics of interest to seniors living in El Cerrito. No action will be taken on matters discussed.

This item was discussed out of order and the presentation was given after agenda item number 3.

Supervisor John Gioia shared information on potential federal budget cuts that could impact senior services and their possible effects on local programs supporting older adults. Supervisor Gioia emphasized the need for advocacy and local support.

Supervisor Gioia reported that Sutter Health has identified Emeryville as the location for a new hospital to replace Alta Bates. He further stated that the existing Alta Bates site will be converted to a 24-hour Urgent Care facility once the transition is complete.

Supervisor Gioia reported on the El Cerrito Veteran's Building Improvements. The building will receive Measure X funding to improve ADA access and repaint the facility. Work is expected to begin in 2025. Supervisor Gioia stated that additional improvements are needed to bring the building up to standard. El Cerrito Historical Society is expected to take responsibility for booking the facility, while Contra Costa County Public Works will be responsible for building upkeep. Supervisor Gioia stated that the Veteran's group will continue meeting in the building, but there is a broader goal to increase community use of the space.

- 8. FY 25-26 & FY 26-27 BIENNIAL WORK PLAN**
Review and brainstorm ideas for the COA Biennial Work Plan for FY 25-26 & 26-27. Must be adopted no later than July 1, 2025.

Discussion of the Biennial Workplan for FY 2025-2026 & 2026-2027 was tabled to a future meeting.

- 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
Hear committee member announcements on matters of general interest to the COA and suggestions for future COA agenda items. Potentially engage in discussion and make recommendations for consideration of future agenda items.

Vice Chair Dr. Kwong reminded members to submit information for the next COA newsletter to her by February 28, 2025.

Member Kehoe announced that the County Senior Resource Directory will be available at Christ Lutheran Senior Day Center.

Member Kehoe announced an upcoming grant writing workshop at West Contra Costa Adult Education Alvarado Campus on Friday, March 14, 2025. If members

are interested in attending, please let Member Kehoe know.

Council Liaison Quinto suggested having a guest speaker from Center for Elder's Independence to speak about the PACE Healthcare program at a future meeting.

Chair Dr. Kwong requested continued discussion and review of the proposed park evaluation checklist at a future meeting.

Committee Reorganization - Elections for Chair and Vice Chair (April 16, 2025)

FY 2025-2026 & 2026-2027 Biennial Work Plan (ongoing, to be adopted prior to July 1, 2025)

COA Newsletter review and possible motion to approve for publication and distribution (March 19, 2025)

10. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Committee on Aging meeting of February 19, 2025, as approved by the Committee on Aging.

Chair, Dr. Pansy Kwong

Staff Liaison, Bridget Cooney

Senior Snippets - El Cerrito Committee on Aging Newsletter

April - May 2025 *Stay Connected & Stay Active!*

El Cerrito EARTH DAY 2025

Saturday, April 19, 9 AM - 12 PM

Celebrate Earth Day with a morning of volunteerism! Help clean parks, remove invasive plants, and pick up litter to prevent pollution. Join or lead an Earth Day Work Party. To register or find opportunities, visit El-Cerrito.org/EarthDay.

The Great Tomato Plant Sale

Saturday, April 19, 10 AM - 3 PM

Richmond Civic Center Library, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond

All plants are \$4 each!

Go Green! Mobility Fair

Sunday, April 26, 11 AM - 3 PM

El Cerrito Plaza BART Northeast Parking Lot, 515 Richmond St.

Join the City of El Cerrito, Berkeley, BART, ECRA Walk and Roll & Bike East Bay for the first GO GREEN! Mobility Fair. Enjoy games, music, food, and cycling workshops while learning about car-free transportation. More details at el-cerrito.org/mobilityfair.

Hillside Festival

Saturday, May 3 & Sunday, May 4

Memorial Grove Entrance, 7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito

Explore El Cerrito's 100-acre Hillside Natural Area with guided hikes and free events. Organized by El Cerrito Trail Trekkers and co-sponsored by the Environmental Quality Committee. Learn more at ECTrailTrekkers.org.

Celebrate Older Americans Month (FREE)

Join us at the El Cerrito Community Center as we celebrate Older Americans Month with music, laughter, and community! Call (510) 559-7000 or email recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us to reserve your space.

- **Tuesday, May 6, 1-2 PM** - *The Perennials Improv Troupe – Ageless Improv: Enjoy an afternoon of humor and spontaneity as The Perennials bring their quick wit and engaging storytelling to the stage!*
- **Tuesday, May 20, 1-2:30 PM** - *Tea Dance Featuring Senior Singing Duo Steve & Alex: Join us for a delightful tea dance featuring live music! Enjoy an afternoon of dancing and entertainment with the dynamic duo, Steve and Alex.*

Volunteer members of the El Cerrito Committee on Aging have gathered these resources for public benefit. The views and opinions expressed by this newsletter and by the individual organizers and facilitators of the program in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the City of El Cerrito. Please consult your doctor before participating in physical activities and regarding any health information contained in this newsletter.

Spring City-wide Garage Sale

Saturday, May 17, 9 AM - 3 PM

Host a garage sale or shop for treasures. Register by April 18 to be included in the sale map at El-Cerrito.org/GarageSale.

Calling All Seniors – Join the Fun on Stage!

May 8, 9, 10

El Cerrito High School Theater Department is putting on the play “Arsenic and Old Lace” and are looking for male senior community members (ages 60+) to be a part of the show! The role will be a no-lines role as the “murder victims” who take a bow at the end of the performance. No acting experience needed – just a 1940’s style suit, a hat, and a sense of fun! Performances are at El Cerrito High School on May 8, 9, 10. If you are interested, contact Director Bradley Decker at 510-231-1437 or Bradley.decker@wccusd.net.

City of El Cerrito Senior Programs & Services

El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane | **(510) 559-7000**

- **Senior Social** – Wednesday & Thursday, 10 AM - 12 PM (*FREE*)
- **Café Costa Senior Lunch** – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 12 PM - 1 PM
- **Easy Ride Senior & Disabled Paratransit Service** – Monday thru Thursday
- **Bingocize®** – Fridays, 10 AM - 11 AM (*FREE*)

Coffee and Conversation with the City of El Cerrito

Meet City representatives, ask questions, and share your thoughts.

- **Wednesday, April 23, 10:30-11:30 AM** – Recycle Center
- **Wednesday, May 14, 10:30-11:30 AM** – Public Works
- **Wednesday, June 11, 10:30-11:30 AM** – City Manager’s Office

El Cerrito Respite Program – Volunteers Needed!

This spring, the Respite program is celebrating 40 years! Held on Tuesdays at the El Cerrito Community Center, this vital program provides seniors with dementia a day filled with activities, exercise, art, live music, a therapy dog and lunch - while giving their caregivers much-needed respite. Volunteers are essential to keep this program going! If you’d like to make a difference, please contact (510) 559-7000, recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or reach out to Carol Kehoe at (510) 915-6120.

Honoring Centenarians

Know someone who is 100+ years old? El Cerrito Mayor Wysinger would love to celebrate them! Call **(510) 215-4305** or email cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us to arrange a birthday greeting.

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Local Senior Centers

- **Christ Lutheran Church Senior Center (Mondays)** – Fire Marshall Talk, April 14, 11:30 AM. Massage available Mondays (11 AM - 3 PM). Call (510) 915-6120.
- **St. John’s Senior Activities (Tuesdays)** – 9 AM - 3 PM, hot lunch at noon (\$6). Call (925) 628-9325.
- **Sakura Kai Senior Center (1st & 3rd Saturdays)** – Contact (510) 672-7150.
- **Richmond Annex Senior Center (Mon.-Fri.)** – Call (510) 620-6812.

Terrified by Technology?

The West Contra Costa Adult School has received a grant to help seniors learn how to use computers, smartphones, and tablets. Starting in May, FREE technology classes will be offered at Christ Lutheran Church Senior Center, St. John’s Church Senior Center, and Sakura Kai Senior Center at the Alvarado campus. These classes will cover basic hand-on practice, and friendly instructors will provide step-by-step guidance. The program is looking for volunteers to help as student teachers and mentors. For more information, please contact West Contra Costa Adult Education at (510) 231-1453.

Books for the Homebound Service

Books for the Homebound are provided free of charge. Call 1(800) 984-4636 for more information.

Avoid Social Security Scams

- Remain calm and talk to someone you trust.
- Hang up or ignore messages from scammers.
- DO NOT send money via gift cards, cryptocurrency, or wire transfers.
- Protect your personal information. Be skeptical of a contact that you did not initiate.
- Share scam warnings with the hashtag **#SlamtheScam**. Visit ssa.gov/scam for more information.

How to Appeal a Hospital Discharge

You have the right to appeal a discharge if you or a loved one is being discharged from a hospital or referred to a residential care facility for the elderly as a part of your recovery plan after a hospital stay. If you believe a discharge is unsafe, call Livanta toll-free at 1-877-588-1123 (Mon.-Fri. 9 AM - 5 PM, Sat.-Sun. 11 AM - 3 PM). 24-hour voicemail: 1-855-887-6668 (TTY).

Medicare-Medi-Cal Assistance

For help with Medicare, Medi-Cal, supplemental insurance, or Part D drug coverage, call Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) at 1-800-434-0222.

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Food Distribution Locations

West Contra Costa Adult Education - Alvarado Campus

Address: 5625 Sutter Avenue, Richmond

Schedule: 1st and 3rd Monday from 9:30 am-11:00 am (except holidays)

Upcoming dates: April 7,21, May 5,19, June 2, 16, July 7,21

Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano County: 855-309-3663

Kennedy High School Mobile Food Pantry

Address: 4300 Cutting Blvd, Richmond

Schedule: 1st and 3rd Saturday from 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

Details: Bring 2 bags with handles. Non-perishable food will be distributed

Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano County: 855-309-3663

St. Jerome's Catholic Church *(Photo ID required)*

Address: 308 Carmel Avenue, El Cerrito

Schedule: Wednesdays, 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Phone: (510) 525-0876,

St John's Catholic Church *(Photo ID required)*

Address: 11150 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito,

Distribution location: Kearney St (behind the church)

Schedule: 1st and 3rd Saturdays 9:00 am-10:00 am

Phone: (510) 232-5659

Meals on Wheels Home Delivered Meals

For seniors 60+ who are homebound. To learn more or volunteer, call 866-669-6967 or email wccmow@gmail.com.

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COMMITTEE ON AGING AGE FRIENDLY CITY PARK ASSESSMENT

Park Name: _____

Date of Visit: _____

Evaluator's Name: _____

Park Features & Accessibility

- Drinking fountains are accessible, functional.
- Pathways are wide enough for walkers, wheelchairs and strollers.
- Park entrances have accessible ramps and handrails where necessary.
- Public restrooms are clean and accessible.
- Benches are placed throughout the park, including near play structures, providing seating for visitors and caregivers.

Safety & Maintenance

- Clear signage for directions and safety warnings are available.
- No standing water or large puddles after rain (good drainage).
- No broken or leaking sprinklers causing oversaturation or dry patches.
- Trash bins are available and conveniently located.
- Recycling bins are available and clearly marked.

Pets & Pet Etiquette

- Clear signage is posted indicating leash requirements
- Signage is posted with information on location of off-leash dog-park in El Cerrito.

General Issues Noted

(Please check all that apply and add comments as needed)

- Broken benches or seating
- Damaged, faded, or unclear signage
- Overgrown vegetation blocking pathways
- Playground equipment in poor condition
- Litter or excessive trash
- Hazardous conditions (e.g., uneven pavement, exposed roots)
- Other (please describe): _____

Additional Comments



Committee on Aging

Staff Liaison

Bridget Cooney | (510) 559-7008

bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Recreation Department

ACCOMPLISHMENTS - DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Chair **Dr. Pansy Kwong**; Vice-Chair **Katherine Cesa**; Members **Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow**

MISSION STATEMENT: The El Cerrito Committee on Aging was formed by City Council Resolution 3559 in June 1973 to advise the Council about the needs of older and/or disabled adult residents. The Committee on Aging addresses immediate concerns and issues concerning senior residents and adults with disabilities and addresses and supports the improvement of their quality of life. When appropriate, recommendations for action are made to the City Council.

The primary duties and purposes for which the Committee on Aging was established are as follows:

- To identify and establish regular communication with El Cerrito's older and/or disabled adults.
- To document needs of older and/or disabled adults living in El Cerrito and identify resources and benefits available from all agencies.
- To develop plans for programs that utilize the resource of talents among El Cerrito's older and/or disabled adults through volunteer opportunities for inclusion in the General Plan and other plans and programs as may be developed.
- To review and evaluate existing and proposed programs within their responsibility and make recommendations to the Council on City action and funding.
- To serve as liaisons with other interested and concerned groups.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: The members of the Committee on Aging are appointed by the City Council upon recommendation by the Committee. Membership is open to all interested adult residents of El Cerrito. Anyone wishing to join the Committee is encouraged to attend meetings so that they may become familiar with the members and activities of the Committee before making their decision to join.

The Committee's regular meeting date is the third Wednesday of the month. The meeting starts at 3 p.m. The Committee meets at the El Cerrito City Hall, Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Ave. The public is invited to attend the meetings. The Chair person and Vice-Chairperson are elected annually. The Committee on Aging does not meet in June, July, August or December.

Updated annually by July 1 and provided to City Council on Consent

Goal/Objective	Activities Supporting Goal	Status
<p>Share information and resources with seniors living in El Cerrito that support the various needs of the aging community, including health and wellness, support services, food instability, and transportation.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging Community Safety Environmental Sustainability</p>	<p>Support Recreation Department Staff by distributing Senior Resource Fair flyers and information about the event with seniors and service providers in the community.</p> <p>Participate at the Senior Resource Fair by volunteering at the event.</p>	<p>Accomplished – October 2024 On Friday, October 25, 2024, the Recreation Department Senior Services Division hosted a successful Senior Resource Fair with 42 vendors and over 200 seniors in attendance. City departments including Recreation, the City Manager’s Office, Recycling, Police and Fire, participated, offering information and services. COA Members Akacic, Cain and Kehoe, volunteered alongside West Contra Costa Adult Education to promote Christ Lutheran and St. John’s Senior Centers and support lifelong learning. COA Vice Chair Cesa and member Wagner also volunteered, helping promote city programs, services and the COA.</p>
<p>Recognize residents turning 100-years or older through the Mayoral Certificate of Recognition Program.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging</p>	<p>In partnership with the City Clerk’s office, Committee on Aging members submitted names of seniors living in El Cerrito who are turning 100-years old or older for recognition through the Mayoral Certificate of Recognition Program. Committee members shared names of additional Centenarian’s to staff liaison as they became aware of seniors eligible for recognition. City Clerk maintains list of Centenarian’s and sends to the Committee for verification quarterly. Committee members confirm residents on the list are still living in El Cerrito and report back on their findings.</p> <p>City Council recognizes Centenarian’s quarterly.</p>	<p>Accomplished - FY 2024-2025</p> <p>Quarter 1 – Recognized 2 Centenarians Quarter 2 – Recognized 2 Centenarians Quarter 3 – Recognized 1 Centenarians Quarter 4 – Recognized TBD Centenarian</p> <p>This is an on-going program.</p>

<p>Improve communication and outreach to seniors living in El Cerrito by publishing and distributing a Committee on Aging Senior Snippets Newsletter.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging</p>	<p>Committee on Aging members identify items of interest including upcoming events, programs, services, and activities for senior living in El Cerrito and compile a quarterly newsletter for distribution.</p> <p>Committee members cite all sources and provide contact information for seniors to get more information on all items included in published COA Newsletters.</p> <p>Committee members review draft newsletters and edit the content before approving for distribution.</p> <p>Staff Liaison prints COA newsletters once approved for publication and COA members pick up copies of the newsletters and distribute them to seniors in the community.</p>	<p>Accomplished - FY 2024-2025</p> <p>Published 4 COA Senior Snippets Newsletters</p> <p>Aug-Sept 2024 Oct-Dec 2024 Late Jan-Mar 2025 Apr-May 2025</p> <p>Approximately 250 COA Newsletters were distributed to seniors in the Community by COA Members.</p> <p>COA Newsletters were also posted on the City's website and posted on the community bulletin board at the Community Center.</p>
<p>Advocate for improved conditions and experiences for seniors using public spaces in El Cerrito.</p> <p>Identify City parks that lack adequate seating for older adults, and disabled residents using the space.</p> <p>Identify safety concerns including trip hazards in City Parks and on City streets.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal: Community Safety, Livability and Belonging</p>	<p>Develop an Age-Friendly Park Evaluation checklist to assess accessibility and safety for older adults.</p> <p>Conduct Park Assessments COA members will visit City parks to evaluate features impacting senior safety and comfort including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trip hazards (e.g., uneven pavement, raised sidewalks) • Signage visibility • Handrail placement • Availability and condition of seating, drinking fountains and restrooms. <p>Collaborate with ADA Subcommittee Consult with the City's Public Works ADA Subcommittee to align recommendations with accessibility standards and ensure</p>	

	<p>inclusivity for seniors and people with disabilities.</p> <p>Provide Recommendations Submit findings and improvement suggestions to the Park and Recreation Commission, City Council, City Maintenance Department and Recreation Department, focusing on enhancing safety and accessibility for seniors and all park users.</p>	
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Accomplishments adopted on XXXX by the following vote:

Moved/Second: XX/XX
Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:



BIENNIAL WORK PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Chair **Dr. Pansy Kwong**; Vice-Chair **Katherine Cesa**; Members **Buddy Akacic, Linda Cain, Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow**

Staff Liaison

Bridget Cooney | (510) 559-7008
bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
Recreation Department

MISSION STATEMENT: The El Cerrito Committee on Aging was formed by City Council Resolution 3559 in June 1973 to advise the Council about the needs of older and/or disabled adult residents. The Committee on Aging addresses immediate concerns and issues concerning senior residents and adults with disabilities and addresses and supports the improvement of their quality of life. When appropriate, recommendations for action are made to the City Council.

The primary duties and purposes for which the Committee on Aging was established are as follows:

- To identify and establish regular communication with El Cerrito's older and/or disabled adults.
- To document needs of older and/or disabled adults living in El Cerrito and identify resources and benefits available from all agencies.
- To develop plans for programs that utilize the resource of talents among El Cerrito's older and/or disabled adults through volunteer opportunities for inclusion in the General Plan and other plans and programs as may be developed.
- To review and evaluate existing and proposed programs within their responsibility and make recommendations to the Council on City action and funding.
- To serve as liaisons with other interested and concerned groups.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: The members of the Committee on Aging are appointed by the City Council upon recommendation by the Committee. Membership is open to all interested adult residents of El Cerrito. Anyone wishing to join the Committee is encouraged to attend meetings so that they may become familiar with the members and activities of the Committee before making their decision to join.

The Committee's regular meeting date is the third Wednesday of the month. The meeting starts at 3 p.m. The Committee meets at the El Cerrito City Hall, Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Avenue. The public is invited to attend the meetings. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are elected annually. The Committee on Aging does not meet in July, August and December.

FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025

Items listed in priority order

Goal or Objective	Proposed Activities	Funding and other Resources requested	Estimated Staff time needed	Timeline For Completion
<p>Advocate for improved conditions and experiences for seniors using public spaces in El Cerrito.</p> <p>Identify City parks that lack adequate seating for older adults, and disabled residents using the space.</p> <p>Identify safety concerns including trip hazards in City Parks and on City streets.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Goal: Community Safety, Livability and Belonging</p>	<p>Develop an Age-Friendly Park Evaluation checklist to assess accessibility and safety for older adults.</p> <p>Conduct Park Assessments COA members will visit City parks to evaluate features impacting senior safety and comfort including: Trip hazards (e.g., uneven pavement, raised sidewalks) Signage visibility Handrail placement Availability and condition of seating, drinking fountains and restrooms.</p> <p>Collaborate with ADA Subcommittee Consult with the City's Public Works ADA Subcommittee to align recommendations with accessibility standards and ensure inclusivity for seniors and people with disabilities.</p> <p>Provide Recommendations Submit findings and improvement suggestions to the Park and Recreation</p>	<p>Recommendation for City Council and Park and Recreation Commission to allocate funding for improved safety and accessibility at City Parks.</p>		<p>June 2025</p>

	Commission, City Council, City Maintenance Department and Recreation Department, focusing on enhancing safety and accessibility for seniors and all park users.			
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ONGOING PROJECTS

Project	Activites	Funding and other Resources requested	Estimated Staff time needed
Educate and share information about resources, classes and volunteer opportunities available to older and/or disabled adults living in El Cerrito by participating in the City’s Annual Senior Resource Fair at the Community Center. Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging Communittee Safety Environmental Sustainability	Identify organizations that offer free or low-cost services for seniors and request city staff invite said organizations to participate as vendors or event sponsors. Help promote the Senior Resource Fair by distributing marketing materials and inviting seniors in the community to attend the Resource Fair. Volunteer at the Resource Fair.	Marketing Materials/flyers Promotional items with City logo item for attendees. Refreshments for volunteers and attendees	
COA Newsletter - Published 3-4x per year Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging	Gather articles and items of interest for newsletter (citing all sources). Layout newsletter articles/snippets. Committee review and edit document and approve for publication. Print and distribute newsletter.	COA Newsletter layout, printing and electronic distribution. Printing Paper	Approximately 2-3 hours per month, 3-4x per year
Centenarian Recognition (Quarterly) Strategic Plan Goal: Livability and Belonging	Recognize residents turning 100-years or older through the Mayoral Certificate of Recognition. Submit names, birth dates, and contact information to staff liaison.		Approximately 4 hours annually

	Confirm physical address and that individual(s) are still living in El Cerrito and report findings to staff liaison by due date.		
Accessibility/ADA Strategic Plan Goal: Community Safety, Livability and Belonging	Identify and report accessibility issues preventing seniors and/or disabled residents from safely accessing programs, services, parks and buildings in El Cerrito.		



SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIALS

**REGULAR COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, at 3 p.m.**

AGENDA ITEM 2 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Public Comments received by 9:00 a.m. on April 15, 2025.



**SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIALS
PUBLIC COMMENT INDEX**

**COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, at 3 p.m.**

The following Public Comments were received by 9:00 a.m., 04/15/2025, were provided directly to Committee on Aging members in advance of the meeting, and were posted online as supplemental materials at:

<https://www.el-cerrito.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=7949>

AGENDA ITEM 3 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Cordell Hindler

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 13, 2025 2:37 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comments

[REDACTED]

Hello Bridget,

I am forwarding the following comments into the Record:

1. I would Like to Invite the Committee on Aging to the Bayfront Chamber Mixer

4-22-2025, 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the Berkeley Country Club \$15.00 per Person

2. Also the Richmond Community Foundation Kick-Off Party 4-26-2025, 3:30 PM Fireside Hall

Contra Costa College, Free to RSVP

3. Contra Costa Mayors Conference 5-1-2025 Hosted by the City of Pleasant Hill at 6:30 PM \$70.00 Per Person

RSVP is Required

Sincerely
Cordell